

Question and Answer: ULWQS Bioassay, Paleo Assessment of Historic Nutrient Conditions, and Sediment Equilibrium RFPs

1 Introduction

This document provides responses to questions submitted by potential grant applicants to DWQ for the following RFPs:

- Bioassays to Investigate Nutrient Limitation in Utah Lake
- Historic Trophic State and Nutrient Concentrations in the Paleo Record of Utah Lake
- Utah Lake Sediment-Water Interactions

2 Question and Answer

Q: What is DWQs budget for each of the three RFPs?

A: DWQ does not have a target budget for the three RFPs because we have no basis for estimating the level of effort, analytical costs, staff time, etc. needed to complete the scope. The Science Panel will evaluate proposals based on how well the proposed approach meets the needs of the Science Panel as described in the RFP. Proposal cost will also factor into the total evaluation score. Depending on the proposals received, proposed approaches, and proposed cost DWQ may negotiate cost during development of the final work plan (after selecting the winning proposal) to balance cost and need.

Q: What specific methods or analyses do DWQ and Science Panel want to see to accomplish the tasks in the proposal?

A: DWQ cannot specifically answer questions related to analysis methods and techniques to accomplish tasks in the RFPs. Proposals will be evaluated and scored on how well the proposed approach accomplishes the stated study objectives. Your approach may recommend any specific methods required to meet these objectives.

Q: What is meant by the term Supplemental Approach in the RFP Template?

A: The "supplemental approach" section is designed for respondents to propose any additional research that they think would supplement or enhance the required research components and help meet study objectives.

Q: How critical is it to stick to the proposal format listed in the RFP?

A: Adhering the provided proposal response template in Section 11 of the RFP is required. Proposals will be disqualified for not following the template or for omitting any of the required elements listed in the RFP.

Q: Can funding be allocated in the proposal budget to for students to help complete RFP tasks.

A: Responses may propose to engage students in completing the RFP tasks. Proposals should demonstrate the how students will be utilized in the proposed approach.

Q: Is cost sharing allowed?

A: Cost sharing is allowed as long it does not inhibit completing research tasks, meeting study objectives, being responsive to the Science Panel, or meeting any other requirements specified in the RFP.

Q. The milestones and deliverable dates presented in the RFPs are not achievable. Can the timelines be extended to conduct a more thorough analysis and more completely meet the study objectives?

A: The RFP timelines were developed to meet the needs of the Science Panel, as quickly as possible. If the timelines are not achievable or they would limit the respondent's ability to develop a quality product, the limitations and an alternative timeline may be discussed in the proposal.